



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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|----------------------|--------------------------|
| First Named Inventor | Uwe Kark |
| Title | Electrode Cooling Device |
| Application No. | 10/523,664 |
| Filing Date | February 4, 2005 |
| Group Art Unit | |
| Examiner Name | |
| Attorney Docket No. | GMH/422/PC/US |
| Date | August 8, 2005 |

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and
Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant submits herewith a foreign patent document of which he is aware, which he believes may be material to the examination of the above-identified application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR §1.97(g)), an admission that the Information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability (37 CFR §1.97(h)), or that no other material information exists.

DE-A-196 24 481 discloses a device to admix air with the water which serves for cooling an electrode. Arranged underneath a clamping device (reference numerals 1 to 3), which has the purpose of axial securement of the electrode, is a radial holding device which is formed by a casing tube 5, which closely surrounds the electrode. Details of the functions of the axial clamping device and the radial holding device are specified in the citation in column 1, line 49 to column 2, line 4.



Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------|-------|----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | DE 196 24 481 A1 | January 2, 1998 | Germany | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| EXAMINER INITIAL | | |
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDÉRÉE

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.